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eral programs, to require authorizations of new budget authority for Government programs and activities at least every 4 years, to establish a procedure for zero-base review and evaluation of Government programs and activities every 4 years, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

(The remarks of Mr. MUSKIE and other Senators in connection with the introduction of the above bill are printed later in today's RECORD.)

By Mr. NELSON:

S.J. Res. 163. A joint resolution to authorize and request the President to issue a proclamation designating the week beginning May 9, 1976, as "National Small Business Week." Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK, 1976

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today I am introducing a joint resolution authorizing and requesting the President to proclaim May 9-15, 1976, "National Small Business Week." Its purpose is to seek appropriate recognition for a vital component in our economy and way of life—the Nation's small and independent businesses and family farms.

As we celebrate the Nation's 200th anniversary, it is particularly timely to examine the role of small business in American society. Smaller independent farms have been the backbone of our enterprises, entrepreneurs, and family farms have been the backbone of our economy, the heart and soul of local communities, and the key to the survival of a competitive, free enterprise system.

This individual expression of freedom and growth, especially visible in the private economic sector, has been a tremendous source of strength and pride throughout the development of our country. Great strides in American technology and standards of living have been made possible as a result of the productive efficiency and creativity that flow from personal ownership, personal management and personal responsibility. The vitality of small business is directly related to the continued health and improvement of our overall economy and welfare. Its vitality is threatened by unchecked growth in economic concentration, "big business" and "big government."

But our Nation's small businesses and farms can continue to be productive if treated equitably under Government policy. We must seek to foster conditions under which small firms can preserve their rightful position in a competitive marketplace, free from unfair and predatory monopolistic practices. Our basic aim must be to maintain a climate where individual expression, innovation, and mobility flourish, and where the traditional American dream of economic independence and business ownership can be realized.

It is my hope that everybody in all walks of life will observe National Small Business Week during this Bicentennial in a meaningful way by recognizing the significance of small enterprise in our

Nation's history, and by making a commitment to reinforce their position in American life.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the joint resolution was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S.J. Res. 163

Whereas, Small Business has been a vital part of American life and the economy since the founding of our Nation 200 years ago; Whereas, Small Business is the traditional source of local and national economic growth;

Whereas, entrepreneurs and individual inventors, in the context of small business, have historically been the best sources of innovation;

Whereas, Small Business furnishes 52 percent of all private employment, 43 percent of the entire U.S. business output and one-third of the gross national product;

Whereas, Small Business is essential to the survival of the competitive free enterprise system;

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating the week beginning May 9, 1976 as "National Small Business Week", and calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups and activities, in recognition of the achievements and contributions which small and independent family-farmers and business men and women have made to American society.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

S. 755

At the request of Mr. BURDICK, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 755, a bill to establish an arbitration board to settle disputes between supervisory organizations and the U.S. Postal Service.

S. 872

At the request of Mr. HATFIELD, the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HASKELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 872, a bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to provide that certain State conservation publications shall qualify for second class mail rates.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. PELL, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CHURCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 895, the Social Security Recipients Fairness Act.

S. 1361

At the request of Mr. HANSEN, the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1361, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize a program of assistance to States for the establishment, expansion, improvement, and maintenance of veterans' cemeteries, and to provide for transportation of bodies to a national cemetery.

S. 2271

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the Senator from New York (Mr. BUCKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2271, a bill to allow independent truckers to enter more freely into the interstate shipping market.

S. 2603

At the request of Mr. MONDALE, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2603, the Women's Vocational Education Amendments of 1975.

S. 2651

At the request of Mr. CRANSTON, the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. HUMPHREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2651, the Veterans' Cost-of-Instruction Extension Act.

S. 2712

At the request of Mr. FANNIN, the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. HANSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2712, the Journalists' Freedom of Choice Act.

S. 2742

At the request of Mr. EAGLETON, the Senator from Maryland (Mr. MATHIAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2742, to dedicate the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park to former Justice William O. Douglas.

S. 2853

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the Senator from Kansas (Mr. PEARSON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. STONE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WILLIAM L. SCOTT), and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. BROCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 2853, a bill to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1964.

S. 2899

At the request of Mr. ABOUREZK, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. CANNON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2899, a bill dealing with organizational and financial matters of the U.S. Postal Service and the Postal Rate Commission.

S. 2911

At his own request, the Senator from Montana (Mr. METCALF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2911, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act.

At the request of Mr. MONDALE, the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. HUMPHREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2911, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 77

At his own request, the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 77, relating to the authority of the Federal Trade Commission.

SENATE RESOLUTION 366

At the request of Mr. HUMPHREY, the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. MONDALE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. PROXMIRE), and the Senator from Washington (Mr. MAGNUSON) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 366, disapproving proposed referral for Indian health facilities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED FOR PRINTING

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY—H.R. 8617

AMENDMENT NO. 1266

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, last week I submitted three amendments to H.R.

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nually on grants to universities would be transferred to the space grant program.

Mr. President, this needed legislation comes at an appropriate time. The advent of the Space Shuttle at the beginning of the next decade will offer unique opportunities for us to increase significantly the scope and potential of our work in space and its applications here on Earth. The coming routine availability of the space environment will offer many opportunities. It is important that we be ready to seize them. This program of grants to universities and other institutions for space research could be a key part of this effort.

I expect that during the Senate's consideration of this bill we will receive guidance and suggestions from the scientific, technical, and engineering societies as well as from the academic community.

I point out that this bill authorizes an additional \$5 million for fiscal 1977 only. Funding for the space grant program in future years will require additional authorizations by the Congress. Also, the bill requires NASA to report annually to Congress on this grant program as part of the yearly report already required by the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958.

By Mr. CANNON:

S. 2920. A bill to name the building known as the Library of Congress Annex to be the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building. Referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. President, I am today introducing legislation to designate the Library of Congress Annex Building on Second Street, between Pennsylvania Avenue and East Capitol, the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

I think it can be said that Thomas Jefferson's vision shaped what was to become one of the greatest libraries in the world. I can think of no more fitting Bicentennial commemoration to honor Jefferson than to recognize his role in the development of the collections of the Library of Congress.

We all remember President John Kennedy's toast to a gathering of Nobel prize winners at the White House. He said:

"I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

Nowhere was there better evidence of Jefferson's knowledge and wide-ranging interests than in his personal library, which he so carefully cultivated.

The fact that books from the Congress 14-year-old library were used to fuel the flames when the British burned the Capitol on August 24, 1814, has played an important part in the history of the Library of Congress and in its unique relationship to our third President. Jefferson in September 1814, then living in retirement in Monticello, wrote to his old friend Samuel Harrison Smith, founder of the National Intelligencer, stating that it would "be among the early objects of Congress to recommence their collection." He considered that this would "be difficult while the war continues, and intercourse with Europe is attended with

so much risk." On the other hand there was his personal library in which he had "been 50 years making," and had "spared no pains, opportunity or expense to make it what it is." He had put together "everything which related to America, and indeed whatever was rare and valuable in every science." In his letter he stated that he had long thought that his library "ought not to continue private property" and had provided that at his death "Congress should have the first refusal of it at their own price." However, because of the loss that Congress had incurred he asked of Mr. Smith "the tender of it to the Library Committee of Congress."

In concluding his letter he said of his library:

I do not know that it contains any branch of science which Congress would wish to exclude from their collection; there is, in fact no subject to which a Member of Congress may not have occasion to refer.

Certainly, these words were prophetic. Congress acted and on January 30, 1815, the act to purchase this collection of more than 6,500 volumes was approved.

Thus the Library of Congress became a library with collections universal in scope. Today these collections, which were built on Jefferson's library, total over 70 million items and are preeminent in the world.

The *Essex Register* in commenting on this purchase said:

It is an honor to our country to say, that when a national collection was destroyed, the private Library of the President could supply its place. . . . No circumstance could be better united with our patriotism, and in the history of the Library we shall never lose this pleasing recollection.

The naming, in this Bicentennial Year, of the Annex Building as the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building will ensure that this important link to our past will never be lost.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 2924. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for the procurement of vessels and aircraft and construction of shore and offshore establishments, to authorize for the Coast Guard an end-year strength for active duty personnel, to authorize for the Coast Guard average military student loads, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I introduce a bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and I ask unanimous consent that the letter of transmittal of the bill from the Secretary of Transportation be printed in the Record at this point.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION,
Washington, D.C., January 30, 1976.

HON. NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: There is transmitted herewith a draft of a bill,

"To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for the procurement of vessels and aircraft and construction of shore and offshore establishments, to authorize for the Coast Guard an end-year strength for active duty personnel, to authorize for the Coast

Guard average military student loads, and for other purposes."

This legislative proposal is the Coast Guard's authorization of appropriations request for fiscal year 1977 and fiscal year 1978.

The 1977 requests were originally submitted to Congress prior to May 15, 1976 as part of a proposal which also requested authorization of appropriations for 1976 and for the transition period of July 1, 1976 to September 30, 1976. When the proposal was enacted as Public Law 94-54 all references to the 1977 requests were deleted. Therefore we are submitting updated requests for fiscal year 1977. The proposal also includes our requests for authorization of appropriations for fiscal year 1978.

Section 1 of this legislative proposal is responsive to the requirements of section 1 of Public Law 88-45 which provides that funds may not be appropriated to or for the use of the Coast Guard for the construction of shore or offshore establishments or for the procurement of vessels or aircraft, unless the appropriation of those funds is authorized by legislation. Section 2 of the bill responds to section 302 of Public Law 92-436 which provides that Congress shall authorize for each fiscal year the end strength for active duty personnel for each component of the Armed Forces. Section 3 of the bill responds to section 604 of Public Law 92-436 which provides that Congress shall authorize for each component of the Armed Forces the average military training student loads for each fiscal year.

Continuing the practice initiated with the authorization request for fiscal year 1976, the individual items included in the categories of acquisition and construction have not been listed. However, in further support of this legislation, the cognizant legislative and budget committees will be furnished detailed information with respect to each program for which fund authorization is being requested in a form identical to that which will be submitted in explanation and justification of the particular budget request. Additionally, the Department will be prepared to submit any other data that the committees or their staffs may require.

Section 4 of this proposed legislation amends section 475 of title 14. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of section 475 authorize the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating to lease housing units which fail to meet established standards and designate them as rental housing even though they are technically inadequate. The Secretary may rent this housing to Coast Guard personnel but the rent shall not exceed 75 percent of the Coast Guard member's basic allowance for quarters. This authority, which would otherwise expire on June 30, 1976, would be extended indefinitely by our proposal. The extension is necessary for in many areas there continues to be a severe shortage of housing which meets the technical standards to qualify as adequate. Also, it is appropriate to extend the authority indefinitely for there is no indication that the shortage of adequate housing will be eliminated.

It would be appreciated if you would lay this proposal before the Senate. A similar proposal has been submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that enactment of this proposed legislation is in accord with the President's program.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, Jr.

By Mr. MUSKIE (for himself, Mr. ROTH, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BELLMON, Mr. HUDDLESTON, Mr. NUNN, and Mr. GOLDWATER):

S. 2925. A bill to provide for the elimination of inactive and overlapping Fed-

8617, in advance of its consideration by the Senate. These amendments were printed as No. 1350, No. 1351, and No. 1352.

At this time, I would like to submit an additional amendment to this measure, which will serve as a substitute to amendment No. 1350. It is a change only in wording. There is no change in intent, which is to exclude employees of the Internal Revenue Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the U.S. Postal Service from certain provisions of H.R. 8617.

I ask unanimous consent that this amendment be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the amendment was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1366

On page 5, line 20, insert "(a)" immediately before "An".

On page 6, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

"(b) In addition to the prohibitions of subsection (a), an employee of the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the United States Postal Service (except one appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate) may not request or receive from, or give to, an employee, a Member of Congress, or an officer of a uniformed service a political contribution."

On page 7, insert immediately below line 24 the following:

"(c) (1) In addition to the prohibitions of subsection (a), an employee of the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the United States Postal Service (except one appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who determines policies to be pursued by the United States in the nationwide administration of Federal laws) may not take an active part in political management or political campaigns unless such part—

"(A) is in connection with (1) an election and preceding campaign if none of the candidates is to be nominated or elected at that election as representing a party any of whose candidates for presidential elector received votes in the last preceding election at which presidential electors were selected, or (2) a question which is not specifically identified with a National or State political party or political party of a territory or possession of the United States; or

"(B) is permitted by regulations prescribed by the Civil Service Commission and involves the municipality or political subdivision in which such employee resides, when—

"(1) the municipality or political subdivision is in Maryland or Virginia and in the immediate vicinity of the District of Columbia, or is a municipality in which a majority of voters are employed by the Government of the United States; and

"(2) the Commission determines that because of special or unusual circumstances which exist in the municipality or political subdivision it is in the domestic interest of the employees to permit political participation.

"(2) For the purpose of this subsection, the phrase 'an active part in political management or in political campaigns' means those acts of political management or political campaigning which were prohibited on the part of employees in the competitive service before July 19, 1940, by the determinations of the Civil Service Commission under the rules prescribed by the President.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1976—S. 2662

AMENDMENTS NOS. 1367 THROUGH 1375

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. EAGLETON (for himself and Mr. CRANSTON) submitted nine amendments intended to be proposed by them jointly to the bill (S. 2662) to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Foreign Military Sales Act, and for other purposes.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL ACTS AMENDMENTS OF 1976—S. 2657

AMENDMENT NO. 1376

(Ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.)

Mr. MONDALE (for himself, Mr. BURDICK, and Mr. WILLIAMS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them jointly to the bill (S. 2657) to extend the Higher Education and Vocational Education Acts.

INTERSTATE COOPERATION IN EDUCATION

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit today an amendment to S. 2657, a bill to extend the Higher Education and Vocational Education Acts. My amendment would encourage States to develop and expand their efforts toward increased educational planning and cooperation on an interstate and regional basis. It would authorize \$2 million in additional funds to be provided to the State Commissions, established pursuant to section 1202 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, for the purposes of planning, developing, and implementing these cooperative postsecondary education projects. I believe that these innovative efforts have enormous potential to increase the quality and the scope of educational opportunities for the students of different States.

Mr. President, before the advent of interstate cooperation, States were forced in many cases to invest their valuable education resources in the development of specialized programs, even though the same programs were available in neighboring States. Often these expensive programs served only limited enrollments. This kind of duplication led to inefficiencies, higher cost, and lower quality than would have been possible through the cooperative interstate agreements that my amendment seeks to encourage.

Last July, at a hearing of the Education Subcommittee which I chaired, the postsecondary education leaders from my home State of Minnesota testified that they had initiated reciprocal educational agreements with the neighboring States of Wisconsin, North Dakota, and South Dakota. These agreements allow the residents of one State to enroll in postsecondary educational programs of the other State at no additional costs. Such arrangements enable students to pursue programs that would not otherwise be available to them. They encourage States to plan together for the com-

mon needs of their students. They allow them to share programs and thus to avoid unnecessary duplication of their education resources.

Numerous other States in all parts of the country have established cooperative interstate agreements at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. These arrangements include such areas as medical training, veterinary medicine, and public health practice. My amendment would enable the States already engaged in these kinds of innovative endeavors to improve and expend their efforts. Other States would be encouraged by the availability of these new funds to explore and undertake such cooperative agreements.

I wish to emphasize that, under my amendment, these undertakings are wholly voluntary. By utilizing the already established State 1202 Commissions, the amendment imposes no further administrative requirements. Its authorization of an additional \$2 million for these purposes would be a modest investment in programs which would, over time, result in significantly more efficient utilization of educational resources. I am convinced that the quality of education and the availability of full opportunity for students would improve as a result.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my amendment be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the amendment was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1376

On page 18, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

Sec. 177. (a) Section 1203 of the Act is amended by inserting immediately after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) The Commissioner is authorized to make grants to State commissions established pursuant to section 1202(a), applying jointly for the purpose of this subsection, to enable the participating commissions to plan, develop, and carry out interstate cooperative postsecondary education projects, designed to increase the accessibility of postsecondary educational opportunities for the residents of the participating States and to assist such States to carry out postsecondary educational programs in a more effective and economical manner."

On page 18, line 22, strike out "Sec. 177." and insert in lieu thereof "(b)".

On page 18, line 24, strike out "(c)" and insert in lieu thereof "(d) (1)".

On page 19, line 2, before the period the first time it appears in the line insert a comma and the following: "other than subsection (c) of this section".

On page 19, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

"(2) There are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year ending prior to October 1, 1982, to carry out the provisions of subsection (c) of this section."

Mr. BURDICK. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleague from Minnesota, Senator MONDALE, in introducing an amendment to S. 2657 which encourages greater interstate cooperation in higher education.

In the past few years, North Dakota has greatly benefited from these kinds of cooperative programs, and they have proven highly beneficial to our students.

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Working with the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission, our two States have established a reciprocity agreement granting resident tuition to North Dakota students attending Minnesota schools and to Minnesota students attending North Dakota schools. We have also established a Tri-College University in Fargo, N.D., and Moorhead, Minn., utilizing the three colleges in the two cities and allowing students to take courses for credit at any of the three institutions. In addition, the newly expanded and innovative University of North Dakota Medical School, which specializes in family and rural practice, has a co-operative arrangement with the University of Minnesota and with the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., for a year of clinical training.

Such interstate cooperation is good for both the schools and the students involved. It opens up the possibility of broader educational opportunities in a practical and efficient framework. Courses such as veterinarian and optometrist training, which are costly and often impossible for sparsely populated States to finance, could be possible through cooperative, multi-State planning. The Old West Regional Commission, representing North Dakota and several other western States, is currently exploring such an idea for a veterinary school, a much needed facility in those States. If state legislatures knew other States were willing to share the cost of such education, I believe they would be much more likely to support new and needed programs.

I commend the senior Senator from Minnesota for his leadership in this area, and I hope the Senate will adopt this amendment.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with Senator MONDALE today in introducing an amendment to S. 2657, a bill to extend the Higher Education and Vocational Education Acts, to raise the level of income at which families are eligible for the Federal interest payment on the guaranteed student loan program from \$15,000 to \$20,000. This amendment will make the Federal student assistance programs more equitable for middle income students and their families and will help address the increasing financial burden these families are confronting with the rising costs of college education today.

The current income level for automatic eligibility—\$15,000—for the Federal interest subsidy was established 10 years ago, when this program was first established. At that time, it was estimated that the guaranteed student loan program and this particular eligibility level for interest payments would serve more than 87 percent of young people needing student loans. The remaining 13 percent of the college students were intended to obtain loans without the Federal interest subsidy. That was 10 years ago. Since that time, the Consumer Price Index has increased by 65.6 percent, and college tuition and other expenses have gone up even more rapidly. But the income level on which the GSL program provides Federal interest subsidy has remained at \$15,000.

Failure to adjust this income level has meant increasing hardship for middle income families, both within the State of New Jersey and throughout the country. College costs have gone up, and today within New Jersey decisions are being made to hold constant the college population because of lack of student assistance and operating funds to support increased enrollments. In New Jersey under the GSL program at the present time, only 68.5 percent of students receiving loans can qualify for an interest subsidy because of the \$15,000 limitation. From 1970 to 1975, the proportion of students needing loans with family incomes falling above this \$15,000 and below \$20,000 has increased from 6.5 percent of the student population, or 1,800 students in 1970, to 17 percent of the student population or 4,800 students in 1975. And while lenders in the State of New Jersey have made loans available to the students who do not automatically qualify for this interest subsidy, I have heard from my colleagues that in other States failure to qualify for the interest subsidy has left students with no loans at all because lenders will not make funds available for students who are ineligible for the interest subsidy.

Over the last decade, the Congress has expanded Federal student assistance programs, particularly with the enactment of the basic opportunity grant program in 1972 which provided a basic entitlement to assure that no student would be blocked from higher education because of lack of financial resources of his family.

Yet over the last few years families in my own State of New Jersey and from around the country have become increasingly hard pressed to find the funds to support their sons and daughters in higher education. This cost squeeze is one which concerns me very much, and which I believe the Congress must take action to forestall.

The Federal Government can ill afford a policy which makes higher education possible for poor students and for students who can afford to pay their own way, but makes these opportunities more difficult for middle income students to enjoy.

The average cost of education in New Jersey colleges, universities and 2-year schools has reached a high of \$2,800, and that figure includes the much lower costs of attending county and community colleges in the State of New Jersey. Yet, more and more families are faced not only with the increasing costs of other necessary goods in addition to the costs of higher education—but must embrace these costs for two or more students enrolled in higher education at the same time. Statistics show that the number of families with two or more students in higher education has increased dramatically over the last few years, meaning that many families must shoulder an expense in New Jersey of at least \$5,600 for college education alone. That expense is not small for families even with an income over \$20,000.

I believe that one necessary step to offset this cost squeeze is to assure that interest subsidized loans are available to

students on the same basis as originally intended under this legislation. Raising the income eligibility level from \$15,000 to \$20,000 will accomplish this, and I am therefore pleased to introduce this amendment today.

AMENDMENT NO. 1377

(Ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.)

Mr. MONDALE (for himself and Mr. WILLIAMS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them jointly to the bill (S. 2657) to extend the Higher Education and Vocational Education Acts.

EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit an amendment to S. 2657, a bill to extend the Higher Education and Vocational Education Acts, that addresses the growing financial burdens upon middle-income families whose children want to attend postsecondary institutions. My amendment would increase the level of income at which families are eligible for the Federal interest payment in the guaranteed student loan program from its present \$15,000 to \$20,000. This current level was established at the program's inception in 1967. Since that time, the Consumer Price Index has increased by 65.6 percent; yet the level of income which qualifies for this subsidy has remained unchanged.

Mr. President, one of the problems in education that has caused me the greatest concern is this terrible cost squeeze on middle-income families. Both nationwide and in my home State of Minnesota, the greatest decrease in the numbers of students in higher education has occurred among these families.

There are several reasons for this serious crisis. One is that the cost of attending college has grown considerably in recent years, outstripping even the increases in cost-of-living. Another cause, that is only recently being understood, can be found in the increasing numbers of families who have more than one child enrolled in postsecondary education at the same time. This proportion has doubled in the last 10 years.

To send one, two, or three children to postsecondary institutions requires families to find suddenly several thousand dollars a year in extra income. The costs of sending two children to public colleges amount to one-fourth of the income of a family earning even \$22,000 a year. However, tragically, when middle income families turn to the existing Federal student aid programs for help, they are told that they are not eligible. As a result, increasing numbers of these families are painfully concluding that they just cannot afford the additional costs involved. And yet these are the families whose tax dollars pay for the aid programs that enable lower income students to attend college.

This situation is terribly unfair. Not only will it be an enormous loss for these families, their children, and society, but it is also creating tremendous bitterness in this country.

Since the guaranteed student loan pro-